

Sad News from R A T C L I F F:

Being a Full and True

RELATION

**Of A
Horrid and Bloody**

MURDER,

Committed upon the Bodies of an Antient Gentlewoman,
(Captain Giddings Wifes Mother) and his Sifters Child,
who was a Girl of Two Years and a half Old, and a Maid-
Servant in the House, by Robert Condinge Servant to
Captain Giddings, William Thomas and William Rogers, all
Seamen or pretended Seamen; who afterwards Robbed
the House of Captain Giddings in Brook-street Ratcliff, on
Tuesday the Thirteenth of this instant January. How Con-
dinge was Apprehended (Selling the Plate they had Stolen)
at a Goldsmiths Shop without Aldgate: With an Account
of his Confession and Committment to Newgate, &c.
Faithfully Related and Published, to prevent Mistakes and
False Reports.

AS every day produces new Examples of Barbarity and Murder,
and tho' the Eye of Providence seldom leaves any Corner un-
searched, for the Discovery of the Inhumane Actors of such
unheard-of Cruelties, to bring their Devilish Deeds to light,
that thereby they may receive a Reward answerable to their Deserts:
Yet the Devil is so conversant with some sort of Persons, who will ven-
ture their Souls, Lives, and all that is Dear unto them, to perpetrate
their Villanies, notwithstanding the Daily Examples of Justice they meet
with; one of which (and Impious in the Superlative Degree) this follow-
ing Relation will furnish you with, which is published on purpose to
prevent False Reports, as (without doubt) some People, upon such an
Execrable Murder, will be otherwise apt to raise. And no longer to
digress from the Relation, I shall Faithfully declare the Matter without
any Addition, Equivocation, or Mendacity whatsoever.

Captain William Giddings, who liveth in Brook-street in Ratcliff, about
three Months since took to Prentice one Robert Condinge aged about
Eighteen Years, who proved a Dissolute young Man, and led a more
Reprobate Life, whom Captain Giddings never had any good opinion of;
notwith-

notwithstanding he still acted in his Station indifferent well: but coming
ashore about Nine days since at *Blackwall*, to the Sign of the *Rose and
Crown*, he (as the Devil had appointed) chanced to come in Company
with two Men, who pretended to be Prei-masters, one whose Name
was *William Thomas*, and the other *William Rogers*, they drinking toge-
ther for some Hours, came so far acquainted, that they in a little time
made this Internal Conclusion, That they would Rob the House of
Capt. Giddings, and Murther his Family, which they thus brought to pass.

Upon *Tuesday* the Thirteenth of this instant *January*, the aforesaid
Robert Condinge came to *Ratcliff* to his Master's House, at which time
Captain Giddings happened to be from Home about his Affairs, and his
Wife was sitting in the Evening with her Mother (an antient
Gentlewoman) and his Sisters Child, being a little Girl, aged two Years
and a half, and a Maid Servant. *Condinge* had not been long in the House,
ere *Thomas* and *Rogers* knocked at the Door, who asked to speak with
Condinge, and were accordingly (catally) admitted; they had not been
long in the House, ere they desired the Maid (the better to compass
their hellish Design) to fetch them a Pennyworth of Tabacco; but
as soon as she was gone, they set upon the old Gentlewoman, knock'd
her down with a Smith's Iron Hand-Maw, and gave her an extraordi-
nary large cut with a Hand-Cleaver over the Forehead cross-ways, that
she immediately died; and the Child crying, *Rogers* swore, *Damn it, does it
make a Noise? Kill it.* Which inhumanly they did; and the Maid return-
ing with the Tabacco, they knock'd down, as before, and gave her a
Cut cross the Forehead with the Cleaver, so deep that her Brains
came out upon the floor.

Then they ransack'd the House, and stole of Plate, a double and single
Tankard, and six Spoons, besides Rings, Jewels, currant Gold, and
other things to a great value; but was in such haste, that they left two
Silver Porringers in a Chest of Drawers, and other Childrens Plate.
Thomas and *Rogers* being old politick Rogues, took the Money, Gold, &c.
and gave *Condinge* the two Tankards and Spoons, who went to a Gold-
smith's Shop without *Aldegate*, and asked to buy a Ring, but for the pay-
ment he offered one of the Spoons, and likewise he offered the rest of
them and the Tankards to sale; he looking like an idle Fellow, and gi-
ving no good Account how he came by them, the Goldsmith caused
him to be seiz'd; and a crowd of People gathering together, and some
of them seeing the Marks of the Plate, charg'd him with the Murther;
which at first he stily deny'd, till being promised Liberty if he leache'd
his Confederates, he confess'd he was accessary to it, but did not assist
in it, he looking on till the other did it, and that he was to meet
them at a Strong-water-Shop in *Wapping* that Night. Upon which he
was had before a Justice, and committed to *Newgate*, and search made
for the other two, but could not be found that night: But yesterday
being the Fourteenth of this Instant, *William Thomas* was taken and
sent to *Newgate* to keep the other company, and we doubt not but their
number will quickly be compleated; for diligent search is made for
Rogers, who is not like to scape from the hands of Justice. What
Lamentation and Cries there were in this unhappy House when the
unwelcom News arrived to the Ears of *Captain Giddings* and his Wife,
I leave the Reader to judge, and shall conclude, *From Battel, Murther,
and from sudden Death, Good Lord deliver us.*